

A VICTORY FOR BIG ARMY PLANS

House and Senate Conferees Have Finally Agreed.

BETTER NATIONAL DEFENSE

Hundreds Of Thousands Of Spectators Cheer Throng Made Up Of All Classes and Including Many Notables.

New York.—New York expressed its attitude on the question of national preparedness by holding the greatest civic parade in the history of the country.

In one division were the street sweepers in their uniforms of white, while in another were the dignified justices of the Supreme Court of New York.

"This," declared Major-General Leonard Wood, in command of the Department of the East, who reviewed the parade, "is the greatest argument America has ever known in favor of preparedness against elements that are at present unknown.

March Twelve Hours. The great civic army began marching at 9:30 A. M., and the last of them had not passed the reviewing stand in Madison Square until 9:30 o'clock P. M.

The paraders marched rapidly, more than 10,000 passing a given point within an hour. When the first division disbanded, after walking the full length of lower Fifth avenue to Fifty-seventh street, the Mayor, accompanied by Major-General Wood and Rear-Admiral Nathaniel Usher, in command of the New York Navy Yard, left their carriage and took seats in the reviewing stand.

Governor Whitman, who viewed the demonstration from a flag-draped balcony of the Union League Club, declared it was the most remarkable example of patriotism and civic pride he ever had witnessed.

"Speaking as a citizen," said the Governor, "I should say that every New Yorker who saw the parade should have been inspired with pride."

With few exceptions the marchers carried small American flags. Most of them also wore buttonhole emblems.

The new armored motor battery, the first thus far acquired by any National Guard in the country, was greeted with cheers all along the line of march.

Edison Heads Contingent. Thomas A. Edison, notwithstanding his 69 years, tramped along with the stride of a man half his age, at the head of a contingent of 22 members of the Naval Consulting Board of the United States.

"Such a parade needs no expression," declared the inventor. "The fact that I marched in it expressed my sentiments exactly."

CAPITAL WANTS SOUTH'S VETS.

Washington Will Invite Confederates To Meet There In 1917.

Washington.—The capital of the reunited nation wants the Confederate veterans, the men who fought for the South a half-century ago, to hold what will probably be their last reunion within her boundaries.

SKIRTS TO STAY SHORT.

National Manufacturers Say So, and They Make 'Em.

Cincinnati.—The short skirt will continue to be worn next fall, according to the report of the style committee of the National Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' Association, adopted at the annual convention here.

PERSHING FREE TO RENEW CHASE

Rumors of Anti-American Agitation By Carranza Men.

TROOPS READY TO DASH

Infantry Guard Increased At Arizona Towns Following Report Of New Raid On Border Mining Camp.

El Paso.—Orders have been issued from Washington to rush troops across the Rio Grande and take all Mexican border towns and railway terminals if the punitive expedition is attacked by Carranza forces.

These are declared to be the tentative orders received by General Funston after the report of the Scott-Obregon conference, which ended in a disagreement had been digested at the War Department.

General Funston received a wireless message from General Pershing that Carranza authorities in Central and Southern Chihuahua are leasing arms and ammunition to the native citizens.

The report added that a brigade of cavalry had been deployed south of Namsiquipa as an advance guard.

Wilson Stands Pat On Policy. Washington.—Failure of the military conference at El Paso to reach a definite agreement has brought no change in the policy toward Mexico of the Washington administration.

FRANCE NOT YET READY.

Embassy Says Her Position Is The Same As Other Allies.

Washington.—France is no more set against peace at this time than her allies are, it was said at the French Embassy, but—

"For the present we will turn a deaf ear to peace talk," it was added.

Commenting on the dispatch from Rome, telling of reports that France alone of all the belligerents is not inclined to make peace, embassy officials insist France's position is not different from the others.

While Washington officials attached significance to the fact that the censurers of both Italy and France passed the cable message reporting France's alleged position, no such significance was admitted by the embassy.

Still Stand Together. "It is still 'one for all and all for one,'" it was declared.

The German Embassy makes no secret of Germany's willingness to talk peace. As far as terms, Germany, embassy attaches say, is standing pat on those named by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg in the Reichstag.

"That suggestion is a plain declaration of the hope that the United States may seek to bring about peace."

URGES FEDERAL AID.

Congressman Keet Wants States Assisted In Tuberculosis Work.

Washington.—Federal aid to states which care for non-resident tuberculosis patients was proposed by Congressman Keet before the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. A bill introduced by him in the House and by Senator Norris in the Senate, paying 75 cents a day for each patient, was explained in California, his home State, and in many other far Western localities the health of whole districts is endangered by the immigration of tuberculosis patients who cannot now obtain proper treatment in their own states, he said.

NO THOUGHT OF PEACE.

British Home Secretary Says Germany Must First Be Beaten.

London.—England's answer to the peace intimations contained in the German note to the United States was given by Home Secretary Herbert Samuel. In a public address the Home Secretary said: "There will be no thought of peace until Germany is beaten. Our victory must be decisive."

WRECK ON SEABOARD.

Two Killed, Five Injured, When Flamingo Special Is Derailed.

Raleigh, N. C.—Two persons were killed and five injured when the Flamingo Special on the Seaboard Air Line was wrecked. The wreck, which was caused by a defective switch, occurred 50 miles north of Raleigh. The train was derailed.

PERMITS LUSITANIA MEETING.

New York Mayor Takes View That German Crisis Is Over.

New York.—Upon the ground that a crisis has been averted in the relations between the United States and Germany, the sanction of Mayor Mitchell was given to a Lusitania memorial meeting under the auspices of the American rights committee. The meeting, which was to have been held last Sunday but which was postponed at the request of the Mayor, has now been set for May 19.

THE INVISIBLE ENEMY IN MEXICO



SHARP FIGHTING ON ALL FRONTS

Results at Verdun Are About Stand-off.

RUSSIANS GET THRUST

Germany Take Slav Trench and Turks Are Being Driven Back By Troops Of The Czar—The Balkan Field.

London.—Another shift in the line of attack upon Verdun is reported. Holding in check their forces west of the Meuse, where they recently scored important successes, the Germans have again taken the offensive east of the river, launching an attack near Vaux.

The French, too, are attacking in the Verdun region, according to Berlin, which announces an assault near Dead Man's Hill and another southeast of Hill 304. Both these attacks were broken up by German fire, it is declared.

The eastern front situation is growing more interesting with the advance of spring. All along the line the Russians are the objects of occasional sharp thrusts by the Teutonic allies. At present they seem to be content with standing off these attacks and are attempting no offensive. In one instance they failed to hold their line, however, according to Berlin, which reports the capture of 500 yards of a Russian position near Selburg.

Considerably increased activity is reported from the Balkans. There has been much firing by heavy artillery and some infantry clashes have occurred on the Macedonian frontier. Athens dispatches report brisk fighting north of Avlona, apparently indicating that the Austrians are about to move against the Italians and such other forces as may be assisting them in holding the Albanian seaport.

Much importance is attached in Petrograd to the Russian operations on the Mesopotamian frontier, both north and east. In the latter sector the Russians have advanced from Inferior Forcia to the frontier and have occupied Kasr-i-Shirin, about 110 miles northeast of Baghdad, their objective. They report the Turks being before them and the capture of several guns during the pursuit.

Russians Repulse Attacks.

Petrograd (via London).—The following official communication was issued.

"North of the small town of Smorga a body of Germans, after a heavy gun and rifle fire, began to mass before our wire entanglements, but met with an artillery fire which forced them to retire.

"Southeast of Pinsk enemy artillery has heavily bombarded the sector of our positions west of Pleschies. Near Cartorysk we brought down an enemy aeroplane and captured the aviator and observer."

Pressing Austrians Harder.

Berlin.—Increased activity on both the Italian and Galician fronts is reported by the Austrian War Office in a statement. The announcement follows:

"In Eastern Galicia and Volhynia there was increased activity on the part of advanced detachments. There were no events of special importance.

"On the Italian front the enemy, after a lively bombardment of positions of the Gorizia bridgehead and the Dobrevo Plateau, made several attacks at San Martino. He was repulsed every time."

RASPUTIN DEAD, BERLIN HEARS.

Monk Reported To Have Influenced Czar Assassinated, Is Report.

Berlin.—Gregory Rasputin, the Russian monk who is reputed to have exercised great influence over Emperor Nicholas, has been assassinated, according to reports from Petrograd received in Bucharest, says the Overseas News Agency.

TEXAS MILITIA IN CAMP.

Only Two Companies Yet To Reach Fort Sam Houston.

San Antonio, Texas.—Mobilization of the Texas National Guard at Fort Sam Houston for service in the United States Army virtually was completed with the arrival of all but two companies. The complement of the Texas guard ordered to report at Fort Sam Houston is 37 companies of infantry, two troops of cavalry and two batteries of light artillery, in all about 5,000 men.

GERMANY ADMITS SUSSEX ATTACK

Regrets Torpedoing and Promises Indemnity.

FULL AND FRANK ADMISSION

U-Boat Commander Has Been Punished—Washington Accepts Assurances—Indemnities To Be Arranged Later.

Washington.—Germany, in a note received by the State Department by cable from Ambassador Gerard, admits that a German submarine torpedoed the channel steamer Sussex in violation of assurances given the United States, expresses regret for the incident, announces that the submarine commander has been "appropriately punished" and declares readiness to pay an adequate indemnity to American injured on the vessel.

Case Now Considered Closed.

It was indicated at the State Department that the German statement that the offending commander had been punished would be accepted and the Sussex case considered closed, except for arranging for the payment of indemnities to the several citizens of the United States who were hurt. There probably will be no attempt to negotiate for these indemnities or for final settlement of the Lusitania and other cases pending, however, until sufficient time has elapsed to indicate how the last American note was received in Berlin and whether the new submarine policy is being lived up to.

Results of an investigation based on facts supplied by the American Government, the German communication says, have shown that the contention originally set up that the explosion on the Sussex was to be traced to a cargo other than a German submarine attack cannot be maintained. While asserting that the submarine commander thought he was dealing with an enemy warship, Foreign Minister von Jagow admits that he formed his judgment too hurriedly and therefore did not act fully in accordance with the strict instruction which called upon him to exercise particular care.

Officials of the State Department noted particularly the passage of the note which said "in view of these circumstances the German Government frankly admits that the assurance given the American Government, in accordance with which passenger vessels were not to be attacked without warning, has not been adhered to in the present case."

This was regarded as indicating a purpose on Germany's part to decline to pay indemnities for Americans killed or injured in attacks on ships other than passenger liners prior to the date of the last note, in which the German Government promised that freight as well as passenger vessels would not be attacked without warning or without provision for the safety of persons aboard. Any response to the note just received probably will make a distinct reservation of American rights on this point.

GERARD'S SECRETARY COMING.

Joseph C. Grew's Visit Connected With Death Of Father.

London.—The Scandinavian-American Line steamer Frederik VIII left Copenhagen for New York. The steamer was crowded with passengers. Among those making the journey to the United States is Joseph C. Grew, secretary of the American Embassy in Berlin, who recently accompanied Ambassador Gerard to Emperor William's headquarters at the front.

TO ATTACK SUEZ CANAL.

Turkish Ambassador To Germany Says Preparations Are Being Made.

Amsterdam.—A dispatch from Berlin quotes Hakkı Pasha, Turkish Ambassador to Germany, as stating that the recent fighting in the Suez Canal region is only a prelude to other attacks on a great scale which will be made by the Ottoman troops when necessary preparations have been made.

HOBSON CLAIMS NOMINATION.

Disputes Unofficial Figures Showing Victory For Bankhead.

Birmingham, Ala.—Unofficial complete returns from the Democratic primary gave William B. Bankhead a majority of 163 over former Representative Richmond P. Hobson for the nomination for Congress in the Tenth Alabama district. Hobson, however, claimed the nomination by a majority of 63, and announced he would contest if the official count showed otherwise.

SCOTT-OBREGON CONFERENCE OFF

Parley Breaks Up When Mexicans Take Stubborn Stand.

WITHDRAWAL INSISTED UPON

Signed Statement Issued Declaring That Conference Were Marked By Good Will, But Obregon Appeared Vexed.

Brownsville, Texas.—Curtis Bayles, an American farmer, was shot and killed a short distance from his home, near Mercedes, Texas, by a band of four or five Mexicans, who succeeded in escaping, presumably to the Mexican side of the Rio Grande.

El Paso.—Eight men of the provost guard fired over the heads of a jeering little crowd of Mexicans in Chihuahua, a district of the city inhabited by few except Mexicans. The squad of patrolling soldiers was met by some 30 men and boys, who supplemented a chorus of derisive remarks with a volley of stones. The non-commissioned officer ordered the crowd to disperse and then gave the orders to fire. The crowd dispersed. None was injured.

El Paso, Texas.—After almost two weeks of discussion the conferences of Generals Huth L. Scott, Frederick Funston and General Alvaro Obregon, Mexico's minister of war, over American troop dispositions in Mexico, came to an end Thursday without any agreement being reached.

The whole matter was referred back to the American and de facto governments to be settled through diplomatic channels. The situation is almost exactly where it stood before the conferences began. The Mexican government still insists on the withdrawal of General Pershing's columns upon a certain date, and wants that date to come quickly. It is known that General Obregon has been willing to make concessions in order to reach an agreement with the American conferees. He has been overruled, however, by the First Chief, Venustiano Carranza, and his advisers. After practically conceding the demands of the American conferees, he was compelled to reverse his attitude.

The end of the negotiations came after two conferences had been held. The first began at 10 o'clock in the morning and lasted until 4 P. M., when a recess was taken until 4 o'clock to permit General Obregon to keep a lunch engagement. Sharp on the hour the discussions were renewed. After two hours and a half they were brought to an end. General Obregon, accompanied by Juan N. Amador, Mexican sub-secretary of foreign affairs, emerged from the private car occupied by Generals Scott and Funston, walked rapidly down the railway yards, climbed into his waiting automobile, and drove away.

General Obregon was accompanied by his machine by General Funston. The Mexican conferees' manner was abrupt and vexed, but General Funston smiled cheerfully as he bade him good-by.

Official Announcement.

General Funston re-entered the car. Then Col. Robert E. Lee Michie, aid to General Scott, came out and distributed copies of the following statement to the waiting newspaper men:

"We wish to announce that after several conferences, marked throughout with conspicuous courtesy and good will, in which conferences mutual impressions were exchanged and information was collected upon the military situation on the frontier, it was agreed upon by the conferees to suspend the conferences and report back to their respective governments in order that these may be able through their respective foreign departments to conclude this matter. That the ending of these conferences does not mean in any way a rupture of the good relations of friendship between the conferees nor between the respective governments.

(Signed) "A. OBREGON," "H. L. SCOTT," "FREDERICK FUNSTON."

WILSON TO STAY ON JOB.

Declines Invitations Because Of International Situation.

Washington.—President Wilson, because of the international situation, has decided to remain constantly in Washington for the next few weeks. He has declined several new invitations and decided he would break a tentative engagement to speak at Hampton, Va., this week at the dedication of a memorial building at Hampton Institute.

WOMEN WIN BY BOYCOTT.

Pittsburgh Bakers Restore the Old Price For Bread.

Pittsburgh.—Manufacturing bakers at a conference with a committee representing the women who declared a boycott and picketed bakeries in the Jewish quarter because the price of bread was advanced agreed to accede to the demands of the housewives and put the price back to the former figure. The boycott was at once declared off.

CHOKED TO DEATH BY COLLAR.

W. F. Baird, Coal Man, Found Lifeless In Hotel.

Marion, Ohio.—W. F. Baird, a Pittsburgh coal operator and formerly president of the Interstate Young Men's Christian Association, including West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and the District of Columbia, was found dead in a hotel room here. Police believe he fell in a fainting spell and was choked to death by a tight collar which he wore. He was about 50 years of age.

DIRECTORS MUST ANSWER TO STATE

State Banking Department Authorized To Bring Action In Case Of Negligence.

Harrisburg—

Where directors of a corporation under supervision of the State Banking Department decline to acknowledge communications from the Commissioner of Banking or to appear before the commissioner or Attorney General in reference to matters of management of such concerns which appear to require correction, such action is to be considered as warranting the institution of proceedings for their removal or for appointment of a receiver or both, according to an opinion given to Commissioner of Banking Smith by Deputy Attorney General Horace W. Davis.

The opinion was rendered in instances cited by the commissioner, where people connected with building and loan associations had declined to comply with requests or to acknowledge letters. The opinion points out the practices of the Attorney General's department to secure correction of abuses without resort to court proceedings and notes complaints that where directors have been negligent, individuals who have assumed the control refuse to comply with requests of the commissioner.

The opinion says it is fair to assume where answers are refused that such corporations are conducting their business in a manner "unsafe and unauthorized and certainly injurious and contrary to the interest of the public."

Must Kill Dogs or Defend Suits.

Commissioners of counties who have neglected or refused to order constables to destroy dogs which have not been assessed and registered in boroughs and townships, will be sued by the State for failure to comply with the dog law of 1922 and 1925. Arrangements were made with the Attorney General's department by the State Department of Agriculture and the State Game Commission for action at law.

The Attorney General's department has informed the Game Commission that the acts make it mandatory upon commissioners to enforce the law, complaint having been made that birds beneficial to farmers were being destroyed by wild dogs, while it also was found that one of the chief reasons why the Department of Agriculture could not secure more co-operation in raising of sheep was the number of wild dogs. Thousands of dollars have been paid to owners of sheep and other domestic animals destroyed or injured by dogs in the last year.

Constables who fail to kill dogs when ordered to do so will be taxed two dollars for every dog which other persons are employed to kill, but when the officers kill dogs they will be paid one dollar per dog.

To Push Suits For Insane.

Steps were taken at the Attorney General's office to push the suits brought for collection of cost of maintenance of insane persons whose estates or relatives are able to pay for their treatment and care in the State's insane hospitals, the Supreme Court decision removing the last barrier. The Supreme Court reversed the Delaware County Court, which had held the Act of 1915 unconstitutional. Over 100 suits are pending in various counties and hundreds more will be brought, as it is estimated that between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 can be collected. Attorney General Brown has placed John H. Naylor in charge as special deputy attorney general.

Change Year For Railway Reports.

Arrangements were made by Chairman Almy, of the Public Service Commission, Freeman C. Gerberich, chief of the State Bureau of Railways, and Deputy Auditor General C. E. Willock whereby transportation and other public utility companies reporting to the Public Service Commission and the State Bureau of Railways will make reports for the calendar years instead of a year ending June 30.

Camp of Tobyhanna Camp.

The camp of instruction for artillery officers and enlisted men which was to have been held May 21 to June 8, at Tobyhanna, has been cancelled, it was announced from the Adjutant General's department, because the recall of the regular army batteries to the Mexican border made impracticable the instruction camp this year.

Last School Payments.

State Treasurer Young sent out the last of the checks for the 1915 school appropriation, payments having been retarded because of the heavy drain on the State Treasury. Approximately \$50,000 was paid out to thirty-two districts. The total appropriation amounts to something like five and a half millions.

Electric Charters Approved.

Approval has been given by the Public Service Commission to the applications for incorporation of the Connonquensing and Lawrence Hydro-Electric Companies, two of the largest water corporations to come before it. The companies will operate in Lawrence county and vicinity.

Pardons Board Closes List.

The State Board of Pardons closed the list for the meeting which is to be held on May 24. There are twenty-nine new cases and nine applications for rehearing.

\$10 For Concience Fund.

Governor Brumbaugh's mail Thursday contained a letter from Milton including a new ten dollar bill with a request that it be placed in the conscience fund. The money was sent to State Treasurer Young for deposit.

STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

The Latest Gleanings From All Over the State.

TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS

If Samuel S. and Charles M. Couffer, sons of Samuel Couffer, formerly proprietor of the Couffer House, Shelton, lead "temperate, decent, law-abiding lives" they will share between them the income of their father's estate, amounting to \$235 monthly for each. When either of them, in the opinion of the Shelton Trust Company, ceases to live thus, his patrimony will be just thirty-five dollars a month.

Judge Wilmer in United States Court at Sunbury sentenced William Phillips, Harrisburg, and Harry Price, Scranton, found guilty of violating the Harrison Drug Act, to one year and one day each in the Federal Prison at Atlanta, and William Burns and Albert Wise, Harrisburg, to four and six months, respectively, in the Dauphin county jail for the same offense.

The Grand Castle, Knights of the Golden Eagle and Ladies' of the Golden Eagle, adjourned at Reading after the installation of officers. The new grand chief of the Grand Castle is John F. Brounley, Philadelphia, and the grand templar of the ladies' order is Mrs. Mary Dixler, Harrisburg. Next year's convention of the Grand Castle will be held in Allentown.

By a vote of 22,337 to 14,703, miners of the Second District, United Mine Workers of America, ratified the Philadelphia scale, which means that approximately 170,000 miners of the Central Pennsylvania District will not strike. Many mines, while the vote was being taken and counted, will resume operations at once.

Judge Witmer in Federal Court sentenced John B. Beige, of Wilkes-Barre, to nine months in jail and \$250 fine when he pleaded guilty to robbing his own office. Beige broke the safe and door at his store and made it appear as if the place had been robbed. He went to Canada, but later returned and surrendered.

The coke trade is making no recovery from the blow it received during the Easter holidays, many workmen still insisting on two days' rest out of every seven. The recent wage advance has had no influence on the labor supply, which is so curtailed that production is kept down to \$10,000 tons a week.

Nearly one hundred women attended the county convention of the Woman Suffrage party at Norristown. The speakers included Mrs. Anna Orme, of Wayne; Mrs. George Pierson, Philadelphia; Mrs. George Bier and Mrs. Edgar Gardner, of Cynwyd; Mrs. M. E. Snyder, Ardmore, and Ethel Sprigler, Lansdowne.

Fragments of rock hurled over one thousand feet from an overcharge of dynamite in a quarry near Centerville, killed Benjamin Rice, five years old, and severely injured Robert Holcomrod, fourteen years old. Workmen were hired to the ground and injured by the explosion which came through a double charge placed by mistake.

Merchant coke operators are meeting the recent 5 and 10 cent wage increase of the H. C. Frick Coke Company. It is the second advance this year, and coal and coke authorities say it constitutes the highest wage for like labor paid in the world.

Fifty women who are ready to do their "bit" in the event of war organized the State College Chapter of the Pennsylvania Women's Division for National Preparedness. Mrs. Anna W. La Dornus, of Chester, State organizer, was in charge of the meeting.

Following the tie-up of several collieries recently, owing to employees objecting to a new time schedule, the Susquehanna Coal Company's Hickory Swamp employes went on strike along with many workmen at the P. & R. C. & L. Company's Bear Valley Colliery.

Harrisburg's Council raised the minimum wage for common labor employed by the municipality from 16 2/3 to 17 1/2 cents an hour. City improvement work has been greatly hampered because of the scarcity of labor.

C. D. Markel, of East Salem, Juniata county, dealer in general merchandise, has written to Mayor Ezra S. Meals, of Harrisburg, for a license to sell pot skunks on the street. He will have them in a glass cage, he explains.

Arrests of four merchants in Philadelphia were ordered by the State Dairy and Food authorities for the sale of cherries used in sundae which were not in accord with State food regulations.

The Harrisburg School Board voted an increase in the tax rate from 8 1/2 to 10 mills. The board is short by \$30,000 for the year and there is a deficit of \$100,000.

The plant of the Pocono Hosiery Company, in East Stroudsburg, was destroyed by fire of mysterious origin. The loss is \$40,000. The company was rushed with orders.

Henry Bohmig, of South Bethlehem, was arrested on a charge of being the poison pen writer who has been angering society women for several weeks. Bohmig is about thirty-two.

Petro Frederick, while at work at the Bethlehem Steel Works fell 89 feet and escaped with minor injuries.